

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Monday, May 16, 2005.

Met according to adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Hynes of Marshfield in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

Prayer was offered by the Reverend Robert F. Quinn, C.S.P., Chaplain of the House, as follows:

Prayer.

Ever-Present God, we pause for a moment of personal prayer and reflection. We are grateful for the material and spiritual blessings, which we enjoy as residents of this commonwealth and country. As elected leaders, inspire us to make thoughtful, often difficult, ethical legislative and policy choices. Teach us to appreciate and utilize wisely our material resources and human capital. In addressing and evaluating today's complex issues, may we be aware of the consequences and the impact of our decisions at the moment and in the future. Help us to keep clearly focused on our own goals, agenda and the common good. Let our hearts and minds be filled with faith, hope and enthusiasm as we begin each new and exciting day.

Grant Your blessings to the Speaker, the members and employees of this House and their families. Amen.

Pledge of allegiance.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Hynes), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Message from the Governor.

Federal highway funds, preserve.

Mr. Rushing of Boston being in the Chair,— A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to preserving federal highway funds and ensuring compliance with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act (House, No. 4054) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Friday, May 13.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Transportation. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Appointment to a Special Commission.

Commission on Status of Women.

Notice was received that the Speaker had announced the appointment of Ms. Helen Corbett to the special commission (established under section 66 of chapter 3 of the General Laws) on the Status of Women, to complete the term and fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Ms. Fran Hogan.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (filed with the Clerk) were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules:

Sara Carlson.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. DiMasi of Boston) congratulating Sara Carlson on receiving the 2005 Hockey Humanitarian Award;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Fresolo of Worcester) congratulating Ronald E. Charette on the occasion of thirty years of employment with the South Neighborhood Improvement Center;

Ronald E. Charette.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Galvin of Canton) honoring Terrance and Susan Reddington for receiving the 2005 "Dr. Richard Elkfort Citizens of the Year Award" from the Blue Hills Civic Association of Canton, Massachusetts;

Terrance and Susan Reddington.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Peisch of Wellesley) congratulating Nicholas A. Bell on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America;

Nicholas A. Bell.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Peisch of Wellesley) congratulating Ian Healy-Day on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America;

Ian Healy-Day.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Peisch of Wellesley) honoring the memory of R. Arnold Wakelin, Jr.; and

R. Arnold Wakelin, Jr.

Resolutions (filed by Miss Reinstein of Revere) congratulating William Edward Cross, Jr., on the occasion of his retirement from the Chelsea Fire Department;

William Edward Cross, Jr.

Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committee on Rules, reported, in each instance, that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Peterson of Grafton, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Petitions.

Mr. O'Brien of Kingston presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Thomas J. O'Brien and others for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Mary M. Putney, and employee of the Trial Court; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Mary M. Putney, sick leave bank.

Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, then reported recommending that Joint Rule 12 be suspended. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Rogeness of Longmeadow, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on the Judiciary. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Mr. Verga of Gloucester presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Anthony J. Verga and others relative to bonuses for residents of the Commonwealth who served in the Afghanistan and Iraqi conflicts; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Iraq and Afghanistan, bonuses.

Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, then reported recommending that Joint Rule 12 be suspended. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Rogeness of Longmeadow, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Paper from the Senate.

M.C.I.
Concord,
inspection.

A report of the Department of Public Health (under the provisions of Sections 5 and 20 of Chapter 111 of the General Laws) relative to an inspection of M.C.I. Concord, in the town of Concord, was spread upon the records of the House; and returned to the Senate.

Reports of Committees.

Autistic
children,
education.

By Mrs. Haddad of Somerset, for the committee on Education, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1122) of Robert A. DeLeo and others relative to federal reimbursement for special education services for children with autism,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Health Care Financing. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Open-air
parking
lots.

By Ms. Kaprielian of Watertown, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill relative to open-air parking lots (House, No. 3594).

Salisbury,
Ring s Island
Water District.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to increasing the borrowing authority of the Ring's Island Water District of Salisbury (House, No. 3600).

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Capital
project
funds.

By Ms. Kaprielian of Watertown, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill to increase the amount that can be appropriated from the balance of a capital project fund (House, No. 1625).

Higher
education,
tuition
and fees.

By Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop, for the committee on Ways and Means, on a petition, a Bill relative to in-state tuition rates and fees at public higher education institutions (printed as Senate, No. 764) [Representative Timilty of Milton dissenting].

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By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to in-state tuition rates and fees at public higher education institutions (House, No. 1230) [Representative Timilty of Milton dissenting].

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Mr. Donato of Medford, for said committee, reported that the matters be scheduled for consideration by the House; and, under said rule, they were placed in the Orders of the Day for the next sitting for a second reading.

Counties.

By Ms. Kaprielian of Watertown, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, ought NOT to pass, on the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1624) of Rosaire Rajotte for legislation to divide the population of the Commonwealth into ten counties. Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Mr. Donato of Medford, for said committee, reported that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House; and, under said rule, it was placed in the Orders of the Day for the next sitting, the question, being on acceptance.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—

Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At a quarter after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Peterson of Grafton (Mr. Rushing of Boston being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.